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And there came a day, a day unlike any other, when Earth's Mightiest Heroes found themselves united against a common threat! On that day, the Avengers were born, to fight the foes no single super hero could withstand!

THE NEW AVENGERS

In the wake of the Skrull invasion, Tony Stark has been stripped of his roles as both leader of the Avengers and director of a now-defunct S.H.I.E.L.D., and the Avengers are on the run. Until they can be sure who's on their side, the Avengers are using Captain America's hideout in Brooklyn as a safehouse. Collectively they try to keep the values of the Avengers name alive even though they are living on the wrong side of the law.

Norman Osborn is the new political and media darling, and, in Tony's place, is now running H.A.M.M.E.R., the national peacekeeping task force, which includes his own team of Avengers. Unable to stand it, Ronin finally took matters into his own hands and went on national television to out Osborn as the former villain called the Green Goblin.

But something far worse is stirring, only it's not on this mortal plane.

Some time ago, the Sorcerer Supreme, Doctor Stephen Strange lost his mastery of the mystic arts when he used dark powers to save the Avengers from certain defeat. He hadn't been seen since, until he revealed himself to Wiccan, the teenaged magician of the Young Avengers.

He's on a mission to find out who has been granted the title of new Sorcerer Supreme... but little does he know, someone's on a mission to find him! The criminal kingpin, the Hood, who keeps his sorcery addiction fed by the demon Dormammu, challenges him, defeats him and sends him, in agony, to the feet of the Avengers.

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I WAS IN DOVER, NEW JERSEY.
WHY WOULD, I'M SORRY, DOCTOR, WHY WOULD ANYONE IN THEIR RIGHT MIND GO THERE ON PURPOSE?
I WAS LOOKING FOR SOMEONE. SOMEONE SPECIAL.
IN DOVER, NEW JERSEY? REALLY? THAT'S LIKE LOOKING FOR A PIECE OF CANDY IN A--
LET HIM TALK.
I WANT YOU TO LEAVE. OUT THE BACK.
I WAS THERE WITH WICCAN.
WHO IS?
BILLY FROM THOSE YOUNGER AVENGERS. I WAS TALKING TO HIM ABOUT THE FUTURE WHEN...
WHY?
PLEASE! DO WHAT I SAY OR YOU WILL BE KILLED. I'M NOT JOKING.
SHOULD I CALL THE YOUNG AVENGERS?
SHOULD I CALL SOMEONE?
GO.

MISTER ROBBINS...
HOW CAN I HELP YOU?
YOU KNOW WHY I'M HERE.
I MEANT WHAT I SAID TO YOU THE LAST TIME WE MET.
I CAN HELP YOU WITH THAT DEMON YOU HAVE ATTACHED YOURSELF TO.
I IMAGINE YOU HAD NO IDEA WHAT YOU WERE GETTING INTO.
NOT MANY PEOPLE WOULD.
WHOEVER IS IN THERE GUIDING YOU TO ME KNOWS YOUR BULLETS WILL NEVER TOUCH ME.
EVEN BULLETS WITH A SPLASH OF DEMON FIRE.
I MAY NOT BE SORCERER SUPREME ANYMORE, BUT I STILL KNOW HOW TO DEFEND MYSELF.
GIVE ME THE EYE.
NO.
THAT YOU HAVE TO EARN.
IF YOU WANT MY HELP... MY MENTORING...
THAT I CAN GIVE YOU.
AND THAT THING PUSHING INSIDE YOU, WHOEVER HE IS, KNOWS THIS IS TRUE.
HE'S ASKING YOU TO POSSESS A POWER THAN WOULD DESTROY YOU.
YOU'RE BEING SET UP. HIS PROMISES ARE FALSE PROMISES.
DEMONS FROM OTHER WORLDS HAVE BEEN MAKING FALSE PROMISES TO MAN SINCE THERE WERE FIRST MAN AND DEMONS.
THIS IS NOTHING NEW.
HE SAID YOU'D SAY THAT.

DID YOU FIGHT HIM?

I HAD TO.

@#$% YOU!

BAM BAM BAM BAM

IF ONLY TO SEE HOW POWERFUL HE HAD BECOME.

YOU'RE ONLY HURTING YOURSELF.

AGRGH!!

TO SEE IF HE WAS PAST THE POINT OF NO RETURN.

HURAGH!

AND?

AND HE IS NOW MORE POWERFUL THAN I AM.

WOW.

YES.

FLASTA RUYAMAMA!

SO, THEN, HOW'D YOU EVEN GET OUT OF THERE?

THAT SPECIAL YOUNG MAN I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT.

LIGHTNING BOLT LIGHTNING BOLT.

RRAARRGG!

BILLY!

RUN!

AGH!

IT'S ME! IT'S ONLY ME!

OH MY GOD! WHAT THE HELL IS *THAT THING?*

HOLD ON!

RRAARRGG!

RAARRGG!

AVENGERS HIDEOUT, BROOKLYN
I GOT YOUNG BILLY OUT OF THERE, AND THEN I GOT MYSELF HERE.
BUT--BUT THAT WAS ALL I *HAD* IN ME.
(FOR NOW.)
IF I HADN'T GOTTEN LUKE'S MESSAGE ABOUT YOU GATHERING HERE... I DON'T KNOW *WHERE* I WOULD BE.
CAN HE TRACK YOU TO HERE?
IF I THOUGHT HE COULD, WOULD I HAVE COME HERE?
JUST ASKING. MY KID'S HERE.
DO YOU NEED TO LIE DOWN?
I JUST NEED TO SIT.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND-- WHAT DID HE WANT FROM YOU?
THIS.
THE EYE OF AGAMOTTO.
YES.
WELL, DAMN.
HMM.
WHAT DOES IT DO?
IT HOLDS UP HIS CAPE, RIGHT?
NO. (THAT'S FUNNY.) IT DOES MUCH *MORE* THAN THAT.
IT'S ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL MYSTIC CONDUITS ON THIS PHYSICAL PLANE.
AND HE THINKS HE CAN JUST TAKE IT FROM YOU.
YES.
FROM YOU. YOU'RE DOCTOR STRANGE. WHO THE HELL IS HE?

BOBBI MORSE?
HEY.
YOU'RE ALIVE?
YEAH, HOW ABOUT THAT?
THAT--THAT IS SO ODD.
YOU'RE TELLING ME.
SO, OKAY, HOLD ON...
SO ON TOP OF THIS HOOD GUY BEING A GIANT PAIN IN ALL OF OUR ASSES WITH A SYNDICATE OF KNOWN CRIMINALS UNDER HIS CAPE, AND ON TOP OF HIM BEING ALL HOOKED UP WITH NORMAN OSBORN...
NOW HE'S STALKING YOU IN A BATTLE OF THE MAGICAL HOOHAH..
I SUPPOSE SO.
THIS GUY--THIS GUY IS EVERYWHERE.
GUYS LIKE THIS, THOUGH, THEY USUALLY BURN OUT PRETTY FAST.
I KNOW THAT, I'M JUST SAYING--
THAT HE'S A GIANT PAIN IN THE ASS.
BUT WE CAN'T RELY ON THAT.
EXACTLY.
AND IF HE GET'S HIS HANDS ON THIS BAUBLE OF YOURS? IF HE GETS TO YOU BEFORE YOU FIND THE NEW YOU?
MY GUESS, AND IT'S AN EDUCATED ONE... MY GUESS IS HE IS THE HOST BODY FOR A DEMON MAJOR.
THE CLOAK ITSELF COULD BE A TEMPORAL PORTAL.
THIS TYPE OF POSSESSION, IT CAN GET PRETTY NASTY.
CREATURES FROM OTHER DIMENSIONS, CREATURES THAT DON'T BELONG HERE, TRYING DESPERATELY, WITH ANY TRICK THEY HAVE, TO GATHER POWER THROUGH THE HOST BODY.
SO THIS CRIMINAL, THIS LOW LIFE HAS BEEN TAKEN OVER BY THIS DEMON.
AND DOES THIS DEMON HAVE A NAME?

THERE ARE SO MANY. FROM SO MANY NETHERWORLDS.
I COULD SPEND MY LIFETIME SEARCHING FOR CLUES AND SYMBOLS.
CAN I ASK A QUESTION--DOC--WHY DON'T YOU GET IT TOGETHER?
WE'LL HELP YOU. GET IT TOGETHER AND BE DOCTOR STRANGE.
YOU. BE THE GUY.
BECAUSE I WAS GIVEN THE MANTLE OF SORCERER SUPREME OF THIS DIMENSION.
IT WAS BESTOWED ON ME.
I DIDN'T JUST CHOOSE TO BE IT. I WAS GIVEN THE RESPONSIBILITY BY THE ANCIENT ONE WHO TRAINED ME.
AND I FAILED.
YOU DIDN'T FAIL-FAIL.
YOU HAD A BAD DAY. WE WERE THERE. YOU--YOU...
FAILED.
WHEN ONE ACCEPTS THE RESPONSIBILITIES THAT I HAD, THERE WAS ONLY TWO WAYS IT COULD GO.
I EITHER WOULD FAIL OR I WOULD NOT.
I FAILED. I WILL DEAL WITH THAT ON MY OWN.
BUT--
YES, I KNOW, TO YOU IT FEELS LIKE I AM BEING HARD ON MYSELF.
BUT I AM TELLING YOU, IN THE MYSTIC REALMS THERE ARE WAYS. THERE ARE THE WAYS OF THE WORLD. AND THIS IS HOW IT IS.
YEAH, YEAH... OKAY.
YOU CAN STAY HERE AS LONG AS YOU NEED TO.
I THANK YOU. BUT NO. THIS WAS PLENTY. I'M JUST RELIEVED I HAD SOMEWHERE I COULD GO.
OF COURSE.
BUT I HAVE TO GO.
I HAVE TO FIND THE NEW SORCERER SUPREME BEFORE HE DOES.
I HAVE TO GET THE EYE TO ITS RIGHTFUL OWNER.
HO HO HOLD ON...
WHEN THE HOOD CAME AT YOU... HE CAME AT YOU ALONE? NO ONE ELSE?

HE WAS ALONE.
NO.
NONE OF THE OTHER GANG OF CRACKED-OUT--
WELL, BUBS, THIS IS WHAT WE *NEED*. THIS IS EXACTLY THE JUMP ON THE GUY WE NEED.
WHAT AM I MISSING?
YES.
SEE, IF THE HOOD IS LOOKING FOR YOU...
AND WE'RE LOOKING FOR THE HOOD.
WE'LL COME WITH YOU.
I DIDN'T COME HERE LOOKING FOR--
HEY, THE REASON YOU'RE NOT DOCTOR STRANGE ANYMORE IS BECAUSE YOU WERE TRYING TO HELP US.
NOW *YOU* NEED HELP, SO WE'LL HELP YOU.
NO. THIS IS SOMETHING I HAVE TO DO--
THE HOOD'S SOMEHOW HOOKED UP WITH NORMAN OSBORN. DO YOU SEE WHAT WE'RE SAYING?
THIS IS TWO *"MAKE YOUR SKIN CRAWL BAD"* GUYS UP TO SOMETHING AND WE HAVE TO PUT IT DOWN. IF WE CAN PROVE THE CONNECTION...
THE WORLD GOES BACK TO SOMETHING THAT RESEMBLES NORMAL.
THE HOOD IS LOOKING FOR YOU.
WE'RE LOOKING FOR HIM.
AND HERE YOU ARE.
WE HELP YOU FIND THE NEW CAPTAIN MAGIC AND THE HOOD AT THE SAME TIME.
SOUNDS ALMOST LIKE A PLAN.
THIS ISN'T WHY I CAME HERE.
DOC, HEY, IT'S OKAY.
IT'S OKAY TO HAVE FRIENDS.

HAAGGH!
SKRRAASSHH

MAKE IT STOP!
I KNOW YOU CAN MAKE THIS STOP!

MAKE IT STOP!

I CAN'T DO THIS!
I CAN'T DO IT ANYMORE!

AAGGH!

AAGH!
OH GOD!
AAGH!
OKAY. OKAY!
STOP...
JUST STOP...
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON, PARKER?
NNN...

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE, WHITNEY?!
YOU TOLD ME TO MEET YOU HERE! WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU?!
N-NOTHING. NO.
TELL ME OR I'M LEAVING.
I GOT IT.
YOU TELL ME OR I'M LEAVING AND YOU'LL NEVER SEE ME AGAIN.
I'M JUST--
I JUST--
THIS IS ABOUT THE DEMON YOU GOT YOUR POWERS FROM.
YEAH...
YEAH...
I'LL HELP YOU. TELL ME WHAT TO DO.
THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO.
TAKE OFF THE HOOD, PARKER.
I CAN'T... YET.
TAKE IT OFF, AND WE'LL--
NO OFFENSE. YOU HAVE NO IDEA THE POWER I'M UP AGAINST.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA.
THEN TELL ME.
WHAT GOOD WOULD IT DO?
SO THIS IS HOW YOU'RE GOING TO LIVE NOW?! THIS IS YOUR LIFE?!
I HAVE A PLAN.
WHAT PLAN?
IT'S ALMOST OVER. THEN WE'RE EVEN.
WHO'S EVEN? EVEN WITH WHAT?
WE'RE EVEN!

WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO, PARKER?
THIS SCARES THE @#$% OUT OF ME.
YEAH, ME TOO.
WE SHOULD GET YOU HELP. WE SHOULD GO TO DOCTOR STRANGE.
THAT'S EXACTLY WHERE I'M GOING.
I BET HE'LL HELP YOU. EVEN AFTER EVERYTHING. HE'LL HELP YOU. HE *HAS* TO, RIGHT?
HE *WILL*. THAT'S WHERE I'M GOING.
I'LL HELP YOU.
WHY?
WHY?
WHY ARE YOU *HELPING* ME?
YOU HELPED *ME*, I'LL HELP YOU.
HEY...
YOU *ASKED* ME TO COME HERE.
I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S REAL.
I'M REAL.
YES, YOU DO.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO YOU ARE.
I'VE NEVER EVEN SEEN YOUR FACE.
GET READY...

WOW.

WHERE DID *THIS* COME FROM?!

CAP, YOU HAVE A QUINJET?

IT'S NOT MINE.

IT'S IN YOUR GARAGE.

I, UH, I TOOK IT.

HA!

YOU *STOLE IT*?!

YOU *STOLE* IT!

I *BORROWED* IT.

WHO *CARES*?!

HEY, I WAS THE AVENGERS *LEADER* AND NOW I'M A WANTED WOMAN.

I WAS MILITARY AND NOW I'M A.W.O.L.

I HAVE QUINJET CLEARANCE, WE NEED TO BE ABLE TO GET AROUND, SO I *TOOK* THE JET.

WE NEED TO BE ABLE TO GET AROUND... *NOW* WE CAN GET AROUND.

THIS IS *SO WRONG.*

SHE STOLE IT FROM *NORMAN OSBORN.*

DON'T YOU SEE? IT DOESN'T MATTER *WHO* SHE STOLE IT FROM. STEALING IS STEALING.

YEAH, SURE...

WE'RE GOING TO GET A BAD GUY. YOU COMING OR NOT?!

THIS IS THE KIND OF STUFF THAT'S GOING TO BITE US IN THE BUTT.

RIGHT IN THE BUTT.

YES, IT SUCKS. YES.

BUT YOU CAN'T BE *HALF* A RENEGADE. YOU *WANT* TO BE A RENEGADE AVENGER? YOU *WANT* TO RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE?

YOU CAN'T DO IT *HALF* WAY.

WE'RE AT WAR.

THAT'S RIGHT.

AND YOU CAN'T DO IT HALF WAY.

UGH!

COME ON...

JUST THINK OF ALL THE WEB-FLUID YOU'RE SAVING.

NEW ORLEANS

AH, NEW ORLEANS. VERY NICE.

I *HATE* IT HERE.

WHAT'S TO HATE, JESS?

Y'EVER SEE ANGELHEART, LUKE?

GREAT MOVIE.

AND THOSE STUPID BEADS... AND THOSE STUPID GIRLS WHO--

THE BEADS ARE THE BEST THING MAN HAS EVER CREATED.

SO WHO EXACTLY ARE WE LOOKING FOR IN OUR STOLEN JET?

LET IT GO!

IT'S CLEARLY NOT IN MY NATURE.

CLEARLY.

I'M NOT SURE *WHO* WE'RE LOOKING FOR. I COULD SURMISE BUT...

THE EYEBALL DON'T TELL YOU?

THE EYE IS LEADING ME TO PLACES WHERE THE MAGICS ARE BEING USED. PLACES OF HIGH--

IT CAN'T JUST *TELL* YOU?

IT'S NOT A MAGIC EIGHTBALL.

MAYBE YOU SHOULD GET ONE OF THOSE TOO.

SO, DOC, AS WE'RE ALL KNEE-DEEP IN THIS, TELL ME...

THIS SORCERER SUPREME GIG. WHAT'S, LIKE, THE PARAMETERS?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

IS IT ONLY FOR GOOD GUYS?

OR ARE THE BAD GUYS ELIGIBLE TOO?

GOOD, BAD, THOSE LABELS HAVE NO REAL MEANING HERE.

WELL, THEY *DO* ACTUALLY.

NOT IN *THIS* CONTEXT.

SO, GO WITH ME HERE: BY OUR--BY SOCIETY'S DEFINITION--A BAD GUY COULD BE UP FOR IT?

SOMEONE WHO ABUSES THE MAGICS FOR PERSONAL GAIN?

OKAY, LET'S GO WITH THAT.

MAYBE.

SO WHO ARE THE BIG BAD GUYS WHO USE MAGIC?

THERE'S QUITE A FEW. MORE THAN YOU'D THINK.

BUT NOT THE HOOD, RIGHT? IT'S NOT HIM.

I'D SAY NO. THE EYE WOULD HAVE REVEALED THAT BY NOW.

UNLESS THAT'S PART OF THE TEST.

DOCTOR DOOM?

IF THAT WERE THE CASE, I DON'T KNOW *WHAT* I'D DO.

THAT MONSTER--HE *CANNOT* BE ALLOWED ACCESS TO THE SECRETS I HAVE.

BUT IT *COULD* BE HIM.

WELL, WE'RE NOT IN LATVERIA. SO LET'S KEEP OUR FINGERS CROSSED.

HELL! WHAT ABOUT WANDA MAXIMOFF?

AH *DAMN!*

WHAT?

NEW ORLEANS!

I KNOW *EXACTLY* WHO WE'RE GOING TO SEE.

WHO?

Bourbon
BECAUSE I THINK--BECAUSE I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT WE TELL EACH OTHER WHERE WE ARE.
BECAUSE IT'S *IMPORTANT.*
BECAUSE, WHAT IF SOMETHING *HAPPENED* TO ONE OF US?!
BECAUSE WE LEAD RATHER DANGEROUS LIVES, HONEY. AND--AND THESE ARE DANGEROUS TIMES.
I *KNOW* WE'RE NOT MARRIED ANYMORE! I *KNOW* THAT. BUT IT'S NOT BECAUSE WE DON'T CARE ABOUT--
IT'S--*HEY!!* EXCUSE ME FOR *CARING WHERE YOU ARE AND HOW YOU ARE.*
WHERE ARE YOU ANYHOW? ALASKA? WHY THE HELL ARE YOU IN ALASKA.
WHO TOLD YOU TO--TONY STARK?
PATSY, BABE, TONY STARK AIN'T IN CHARGE ANYMORE.
NO. NO, HE'S OUT.
NO, I'M NOT KIDDING.
READ A PAPER. DO THEY EVEN HAVE PAPERS IN ALASKA?
OKAY. YOU KNOW WHAT, PATSY, *FINE!* GO LIVE IN ALASKA.
GO JUMP AROUND IN YOUR SLUTTY COSTUME AND HAVE A POLAR BEAR PARTY!!
WHAT? *"GO TO HELL?" YOU'RE TELLING ME TO "GO TO HELL?"*
ME?

I'M THE SON OF SATAN, BABY!
I'VE BEEN TO HELL!
AND IT WAS A LOT BETTER THAN BEING MARRIED TO YOU!
COME ON, PATSY...
JUST COME HOME...
RUSSLE
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS ABOUT?

WHO THE HELL ARE *YOU* SUPPOSED TO BE?
BLAM BLAM BLAM